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GARSTANG
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Public Health Inspector
FOR THE YEAR

1956



"HERALD"
PRESTON.

GARSTANG
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Chairman of the Council:

COUNCILLOR W. H. HARRISON, J.P.

Public Health Committee:

THE WHOLE OF THE MEMBERS OF
THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR H. THORNTON

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR W. HELME

Clerk of the Council:

H. BOND, A.C.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time):

ANDREW B. TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Health Inspector:

A. SMITHSON, Cert.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

F. C. WESTON, Cert.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspector's Assistant:

J. B. COOK.

Clerk:

MISS S. HAMPSON.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1956

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Garstang Rural District Council*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Sixteenth Annual Report of the health in the Garstang Rural Area in respect of the year ended 31st December, 1956, together with the vital statistics relating to that period.

The general health of the District continues to be satisfactory.

Birth and death rates compare very favourably with those for England and Wales. Of the 149 deaths registered, 109 (over 73%) were of persons aged 65 and over. Once again the year was free from maternal deaths, this being the sixth consecutive year in which no death from this cause was recorded.

The increase in the number of cases of infectious diseases during the year was due mainly to a mild outbreak of measles. For the ninth successive year no case of diphtheria was notified and no case of poliomyelitis occurred during the year.

The number of council and private dwelling houses completed in 1956 was 118, the highest number built in any year since records were first available in 1883. From 1945 to date, 516 council houses have been erected.

Considerable time was well spent during the year by the Public Health Inspectors in connection with additional work created by the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

I would like to express my thanks to the Public Health Inspector and staff of the Health Department, and also to the Clerk of the Council, for their co-operation and assistance during the year.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

ANDREW B. TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Position ... Latitude 53° 54" North. Longitude 2° 47" West.
Elevation above sea level ... 0 feet to 1,675 feet.

Geological formation... Eastern Highlands—Millstone grit.
Western Lowlands—Glacial clay on
triassic sandstone with patches of
alluvium.

Chief Industries carried
on in the Area ... Mainly Agriculture and Poultry; Egg
Packing Stations; Market Gardening;
Milk Processing and Cheese Making;
Textile Manufacturing; Paper Making
and Pre-Cast Products. A number of
men are employed in the building trades,
and a number of residents are employed
in the neighbouring towns.

Area (Acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	57,491
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,706
Registrar-General's Estimated mid-year Home							
						Population, 1956	13,140
Density of population per Acre	...	...	...	...	...	...	.23
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,643
Number of Inhabited Houses end of 1956 according							
to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,066
Density of Houses per acre	...	...	...	...	...	...	.07
Average number of persons per house	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.23
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£138,401
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£527

VITAL STATISTICS

				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Live Births	Legitimate	...	...	208	110	98
	Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—
				208	110	98
Still Births	...	...	...	4	2	2
Deaths	...	...	...	149	80	69

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	1	1	—
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
				1	1	—

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age.

				<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	1	1	—
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
				—	—	—
				1	1	—
				—	—	—

Year	Live births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	Total		Total		Total		Total		Total		Neo-natal	
	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1,000 live births
1956	208	*15.8	149	*11.3	4	19	...	...	1	5	1	5
1955	202	15.6	179	13.8	4	19	...	...	6	30	3	15
1954	242	18.8	157	12.2	3	12	...	...	7	29	6	25
1953	179	14.1	141	11.1	2	11	...	...	7	39	4	22
1952	207	16.3	153	12.0	7	33	...	...	5	24	2	10
1951	209	16.6	172	13.6	7	32	...	...	5	24	4	19
Ave. 5 yrs., 1951-55	...	16.3	...	12.5	...	21.4	...	...	...	29.2	...	18.2

* Adjusted { live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.09) = 17.2 per 1,000.
death-rate (comparability factor, 1.00) = 11.3 per 1,000.

Births.

There were 208 legitimate live births, 110 being males and 98 females. The birth rate (adjusted) per 1,000 of the population was 17.2 against 15.7 for England and Wales.

Still Births.

The number of still births in 1956 was 4, giving a still birth rate of 19 per 1,000 total births. The rate per 1,000 total population is 0.30 as compared with a rate of 0.37 for England and Wales.

Deaths.

The total number of deaths was 149 comprising 80 males and 69 females, giving a death rate (adjusted) of 11.3 per 1,000 of the population. For England and Wales the rate is 11.7.

The death rate for infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births is 5. For England and Wales, the death rate is 23.8.

Neo-natal mortality—deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age, 1. Mortality rate per 1,000 live births, 5. England and Wales 16.9.

Causes of Death.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	1	1
" other	0	1	1
Syphilitic disease	1	0	1
Other infective parasitic diseases ...	2	0	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	0	3
" " lung, bronchus	2	1	3
" " breast	0	2	2
" " uterus	0	2	2
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	2	7	9
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	0	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	11	15	26
Heart diseases	35	31	66
Pneumonia	6	2	8
Bronchitis	4	1	5
Other diseases of the respiratory system	0	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	0	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	3	0	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases...	2	5	7
Accidents (other than motor accidents)	3	0	3
Suicide	2	0	2
	80	69	149

Deaths — Age Groups.

Under 1 year	1
1— 2 "	0
3— 4 "	0
5— 9 "	0
10—14 "	0
15—24 "	0
25—44 "	8
45—64 "	31
65—74 "	36
Over 75 "	73
Total ...	149

Cancer.

There were twenty deaths from malignant neoplasms, of which three were due to cancer of the lung and bronchus. The death rate for all types per 1,000 population was 1.52 as compared with 2.08 for England and Wales.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1956.

Total Cases Notified and Ages.

Disease	Total No. of Cases	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	25—	45—	65 and over	Cases removed to Hospital
Scarlet Fever ...	11	...	...	...	3	1	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia ...	8	...	...	...	...	...	..	1	3	2	2	...	..
Measles ...	246	8	18	20	14	28	150	3	...	5	..	...	...
Whooping Cough	10	1	...	2	1	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Food Poisoning ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Meningococcal Infection...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	280	9	18	23	18	30	162	4	4	10	2	..	1

Tuberculosis.

The number of cases on the register at the 1st January was 69. During the year 5 cases were added and 4 cases removed, leaving 47 pulmonary and 23 non-pulmonary on the register at the end of the year.

One death from respiratory tuberculosis was recorded during the year, the death rate per 1,000 population being 0.08. Death rate for England and Wales was 0.12.

The number of persons who availed themselves of the opportunity to be X-rayed by the mobile X-ray unit when it visited Garstang was 563; this figure shows a decrease of 305 on the previous visit in 1952.

Food Poisoning.

There was one case of food poisoning (*Salm typhi-murium*) notified during the year, which unfortunately proved fatal.

Despite the fact that extensive investigations were carried out, and numerous specimens and swabs taken, the source of infection was not established.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the District is within the administration of the Lancashire County Council Health Division Nos. 3 and 4, as follows:—

Health Division 3: Parishes of:—

Hambleton	Out Rawcliffe	Pilling
	Stalmine	

Health Division 4: Parishes of:—

Barnacre-with-Bonds	Bilsborrow	Bleasdale
Cabus	Catterall	Claughton
Forton	Garstang	Great Eccleston
Inskip-with-Sowerby	Kirkland	Myerscough
Nateby	Nether Wyresdale	Upper Rawcliffe-with-
	Winmarleigh	Tarnacre

Health Services

The general health services, including ante-natal, midwifery, School Clinics, health visiting, home helps, etc., are administered by the County Council and appear satisfactory.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries and Venereal Disease Treatment Centres are under the administration of the Regional Hospital Board.

Hospital Accommodation.

There are no hospitals in the area. Cases are sent to Preston, Lancaster, Blackpool, etc.

The district is provided with hospital accommodation for smallpox at Bury and for Infectious diseases at Preston, Blackpool and Lancaster.

Ambulance Service.

This service is also under the control of the Lancashire County Council, with headquarters at Broughton, near Preston, and ambulance stations at Thornton, Fleetwood and Lancaster.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, S.47.

Number of applications made during the year	...	...	Nil
Number of Orders made	...	...	Nil

Laboratory Facilities.

Swabs, specimens of sputum, etc., and samples of milk, ice-cream, water, and other foods for bacteriological and biological examination are taken to the pathological department of Preston Royal Infirmary.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1956

COUNCIL OFFICES,
GARSTANG.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Garstang Rural District Council*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report of the sanitary circumstances of your District for the year 1956.

Water Supply.

For a Rural District, the area is well supplied with a mains supply of water from the Fylde Water Board. Over ninety-two per cent. of the dwelling houses have an internal supply from this source which is upland surface water of excellent quality. The supply is regularly tested by the Board and periodic samples are obtained by the department for bacteriological examination.

Eleven houses receive water from the Manchester Corporation, Thirlmere supply, and the remainder of the houses derive their source of supply from wells and springs.

During the year, thirteen houses were connected to the Board's mains. Previously these properties had been supplied from private sources.

One hundred and nine samples of water were obtained from private supplies with the following results:—

Bacteriological:—

Satisfactory ...	...	84
Unsatisfactory	...	25

Chemical:—

Satisfactory ..	...	3
Unsatisfactory	...	2

PARISH	No. of Houses, etc.	FYLDE		TH.		PRIVATE SUPPLIES						CARAVAN SITES		SCHOOLS		
		In		C.	In	C.	Burdock		Oak		Others		F.	P.	F.	P.
							In	Out	In	Out	In	Out				
Barnacre-with-Bonds ...	389	329	—	2	—	17	—	2	1	—	32	6	—	—	2	1
Bilsborrow ...	97	85	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	7	—	—	1	—
Bleasdale... ..	56	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	32	5	4	—	—	1
Cabus ...	201	199	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	6	—	—
Catterall...	174	168	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	1	—	—
Cloughton ...	126	70	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38	8	10	—	—	—	1
Forton ...	273	255	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	9	1	—	1	—
Garstang...	558	558	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Great Eccleston...	244	243	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Hambleton ...	239	238	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—
Inskip-with-Sowerby ...	138	135	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
Kirkland...	88	87	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Myerscough ...	188	160	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	1	—	—
Nateby ...	77	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Nether Wyresdale ...	165	98	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	41	8	10	1	1	—
Out Rawcliffe ...	167	165	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Pilling ...	440	425	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	1	2	3	—
Stalmine ...	219	217	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	1	—
Upper Rawcliffe-with-Tarnacre	142	142	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
Winmarleigh ...	85	82	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	—
TOTAL ...	4,066	3,753	6	11	17	2	—	15	38	136	72	16	21	1	20	3

KEY : TH.—Thirlmere supply.
F. —Fylde supply.
OAK.—Oakencrough supply.
P. —Private supply.
CL.—Cloughton supply.
C.—Carried.

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F. —Fylde supply.

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P. —Private supply.

CL.—Cloughton supply.
C. —Carried.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The Council undertake the removal of domestic refuse in the twenty parishes.

Collection of household refuse and salvage was carried out by two Bedford and one Dennis 7 and 10 cubic yard side-loading vehicles, manned by nine loaders, inclusive of drivers.

Refuse was disposed of at the Gravel Works, Scorton, and farm "pits" situated in various parts of the district.

Every endeavour is made with the limited number of vehicles, men, and covering material, to dispose of the refuse with as little nuisance as possible.

Salvage.

The Council continued with the collection of waste paper and other forms of salvage. The amount realised from the sale of the 55 tons collected, was £443.

Sewerage and Drainage.

No major works or extensions were carried out during the year, although the consulting engineers commenced survey work on the proposed Pilling, Hambleton and Stalmine schemes.

The largest and most modern disposal plant in the district is situated at Churchtown which serves Garstang and parts of the parishes of Barnacre with Bonds, Cabus, Catterall, Churchtown and Claughton.

In Great Ecclestone all the sewers discharge, without treatment, in the tidal waters of the River Wyre.

Other treatment plants are situated in Calder Vale, and the Kenlis Arms area (Barnacre with Bonds), Pilling, Scorton, (Nether Wyresdale), and at Forton.

Small treatment works are provided for Council estates in the various parishes.

The majority of the dwelling houses where sewers are not available are provided with septic tanks.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION (AT END OF 1956)

Number of middens	69	Number of moveable dustbins	3681
Number of closets attached thereto	72	Number of trough closets	6
Number of pail closets	489	Number of waste water closets	—
Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	—	Number of fresh water closets	4122

CONVERSIONS DURING THE YEAR

Privies to fresh water closets	3	Pails to fresh water closets	17
--------------------------------	---	------------------------------	----

Public Conveniences.

Public conveniences are provided in the parishes of Garstang, Great Ecclestone and Pilling.

It is proposed to erect public conveniences in the village of Scorton (Nether Wyresdale) during the coming year.

Sanitary Inspections.

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	20
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	129
Cinema	...	...	...	...	2
Dairies	...	...	...	...	22
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	8
Drains and Sewers	...	...	...	...	105
Dust Bins	...	...	...	...	36
Egg Packers	...	...	...	...	17
Factories	...	...	...	...	131
Fairgrounds	...	...	...	...	5
Fish Friers...	...	...	...	...	19
Food preparation premises	...	...	...	...	293
Hawkers	...	...	...	...	25
Houses (P.H.A. and Hsg. Acts)	...	...	...	...	236
Housing (Improvement Grants)	...	...	...	...	127
Houses (Council)	...	...	...	...	35
Housing, applications for Council	...	...	...	...	253
Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	70
Infestations	...	...	...	...	6
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	50
Knacker's Yard	...	...	...	...	50
Market	...	...	...	...	48
Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	165
Manure, Accumulation of	...	...	...	...	3
Petroleum Regulations	...	...	...	...	67
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	8
Public Cleansing and Salvage	...	...	...	...	257
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	83
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	36
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	12
Schools	...	...	...	...	21
School Kitchens	...	...	...	...	6
Shops and Offices	...	...	...	...	254
Sanitary Accommodation:—					
Conversions	...	...	...	...	37
Septic Tanks	...	...	...	...	30
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	1307
Streams and Ditches	...	...	...	...	45
Smoke Observations, etc.	...	...	...	...	6
Swimming Pools	...	...	...	...	2
Water supplies	...	...	...	...	97
Various	...	...	...	...	359

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

During the year, the Council adopted new bye-laws relating to the sanitary conditions and management of private slaughterhouses.

Number of slaughterhouses licensed 10

Number of licences issued to slaughtermen during 1956 ... 17

Summary of Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	712	43	31	3,172	3525	—
Number inspected	712	43	31	3,172	3525	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis :						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	0	0	0	6	8	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	297	18	1	59	195	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	41.7	41.9	3.2	2.1	5.8	
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	0	1	0	0	1	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	51	13	0	0	142	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	7.2	32.6	0	0	4.1	

Number of carcasses and/or organs found to be affected with
cysticercus bovis 0

Food Premises.

Number of food premises, by type of business, in district at
end of year:—

General grocers and provision dealers 66

Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish,
game, etc.) 5

Fishmongers 1

Meat shops, (butchers, purveyors of cooked and processed
meats, etc.) 10

Bakers and/or confectioners 4

Fried Fish shops 7

Shops, selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-
cream, etc. 12

Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes,
snack bars 76

Number of food premises, by type, registered under S.16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 or under local Acts:—

<i>Type of Business</i>	<i>No. registered at</i>	<i>No. of Inspections of registered Premises during year</i>
	31.12.56	
Ice Cream Manufacture and Sale	62	70
Fish Friers	7	19
Sausages, Potted and preserved Food — Manufacture	10	37

Unsound Food.

From Slaughterhouses:—

	T.	C.	Qrs.	lbs.
Tubercular meat	1	18	2	25
Non-Tubercular meat	2	2	0	13

Special examination of food stocks:—

Type	Quantity examined	Quantity condemned
Bacon	30 lbs.	30 lbs.
Ham	32 lbs.	32 lbs.
Veal	50 lbs	50 lbs.

All condemned meat from slaughterhouses is stained green and then either sent to the local Knacker's Yard or to a Processor. Unsound tinned foods are buried at the tip.

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of distributors registered by the local authority and operating from:—

(a) Dairies in the district	3
(b) Shops in the district other than dairies	3
(c) Premises outside the district	7

Number of dealers' licences issued during 1956—

Tuberculin Tested milk	21
Pasteurised milk	14
Sterilised milk	5

Practically all the milk consumed in the area is produced within the Rural District.

Regular sampling of all supplies are carried out for biological and bacteriological examination and the following show the results of the samples taken:

Raw Milk:

	<i>No. of samples</i>	<i>No. Positive</i>	<i>No. Negative</i>
Tuberculosis	76	0	76
	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Satisfactory</i>	<i>No. Unsatisfactory</i>
Bacteriological			
Methylene Blue	76	65	11
B. Coli	76	58	18
	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Satisfactory</i>	<i>No. Unsatisfactory</i>

Heat Treated Milk:

Phosphatase Test	5	5	...
Methylene Blue Test	5	5	...
Turbidity Test	1	1	...

Tuberculosis Milk:

Result of Ministry investigations within the district during the year arising from notifications by any local authority:

Number of herds examined by veterinary inspectors	...	2
„ „ cases where animals seized under Tuberculosis Order, 1938		2
„ „ animals seized		2
„ „ cases reported negative where animals had been sold prior to investigation		—
„ „ cases reported negative, no animals seized	...	—

There are two pasteurising plants within the area which are licensed by the County Council. Regular samples are obtained by the County Council.

All milk supplied to the schools in the district is either T.T., or Pasteurised.

Ice Cream.

During the year, 44 samples of Ice Cream were taken.

Of the 44 samples examined 37 were of ice cream manufactured outside the Rural District and 7 were from ice cream manufactured within the district. The following is a table showing the respective grading:—

			<i>Made Out of the District</i>		<i>Made Within the District</i>
Grade 1	...	...	35	...	6
2	...	...	2	...	0
3	...	...	0	...	1
4	...	...	0	...	0
			37	...	7

Markets.

There is one market, situated in Garstang, under the control of the Garstang Town Trust which is regularly inspected.

Offensive Trades.

There is one licensed Knacker's Yard in the district, situated in the Parish of Catterall. The premises are regularly inspected and have been found satisfactory and well conducted.

Smoke Abatement.

Few complaints were received during the year regarding alleged smoke nuisances. These were investigated and appropriate action was taken where necessary.

At one factory a new boiler was installed to replace the existing one which had, for the past 2/3 years, caused annoyance and nuisance to the occupiers of the adjoining premises.

Moveable Dwellings.

Number of licensed caravan sites—22.

Number of licences issued during 1956 for individual caravans—38.

Number (approx.) of caravans stationed in the district, June, 1956—794.

Number of caravans used for permanent habitation—251.

The licensed caravan sites, with one exception, have public water supplies and the majority of the sites are provided with fresh-water closets to septic tanks.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public baths within the area, although some bathing takes place in favourable weather in certain parts of the rivers Wyre and Brock.

At one of the caravan sites a swimming pool has been provided for the benefit of the caravanners. The water is pumped from a nearby well and receives no treatment, but is changed regularly.

Shops and Offices.

Two-hundred-and-fifty-four inspections were carried out.

The majority of the shops in the area are family concerns, employing few or no assistants.

Schools.

There are twenty-three schools in the Rural District and another is at present in course of construction.

The number of scholars attending varies from 8 to 260, whilst the total number is approximately 1,600.

Water is supplied by the Fylde Water Board to 20 of the schools and at Bleasdale, Calder Vale and Claughton the supplies are from private sources which are sampled regularly.

Sanitary accommodation consists of fresh water closets at 20 schools whilst at Bleasdale and Eagland Hill, pails and privies are provided. The trough-type closets at Great Eccleston (R.C.) were, at the end of the year, in course of conversion.

There are two school kitchens in the area, which provide approximately 700 meals daily.

Housing.

Number of dwelling houses erected during the year:

Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	118
(i) By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
(ii) By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70

Since 1945, 784 houses have been erected, of which 516 were Council houses and the remaining 268 for private use.

The Council's housing register revealed at the 31st December, 1956, that there were 159 outstanding applications for Council houses. These were made up as follows:—

- 39 from persons living in rooms.
- 24 from persons living in moveable dwellings.
- 86 from tenants of houses.
- 10 from single persons.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year—

(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	147
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	271
(2) Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit:—	
(a) Number found during year	10
(b) Number (or estimated number) at end of year ...	37
(3) Number of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	29

2. Housing Act, 1936, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.
Houses not included in Clearance Areas:—

	No. of Houses	Persons Displaced
(1) Houses demolished or closed during the year		
(a) Housing Act, 1936—		
(i) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (S.11)	3	11
(ii) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under S.11	9	55
(iii) Parts of building closed S.12	—	—
(b) Housing Act, 1949—		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Ss3(1) and 3(2)	—	—
(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953—		
(i) Closed as a result of closing orders under Ss10(1) and 11(2)	—	—

- (2) Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 44

3. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).

(1) Number of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under S7 —

(2) Number of separate dwellings contained in (1) —

(3) Number of houses at end of year licensed for temporary occupation (S6) 1

4. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding:

Overcrowding in the district is negligible. Special consideration is given by the Council in the rehousing of any overcrowded family residing in the district.

5. Housing Acts, 1949-54. Improvement Grants.

(i) Number of schemes submitted by private individuals to local authority	15
(ii) Number of schemes approved	14
(iii) Number of dwelling houses affected	15
(iv) Number of schemes completed	4

Factories.

1.—Inspection of Factories.

No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
126	131	Nil	Nil

Outworkers.

Number on register	Nil
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Defects Found in Factories.

Particulars	Referred			
	Defects Found	Defects Remedied	by H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors.	—	—	—	—

Sanitary Conveniences:

(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	11	11	1	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—

Verminous Persons and Premises.

Six houses were treated for cockroaches and several infestations of ants, wasps, etc., were eradicated by proprietary insecticides. In addition, 12 blankets were steam disinfected for scabies.

Disinfection.

Disinfection is carried out by means of formalin fumigators and fifteen rooms were treated by this method during the year.

Rodent Control.

The Council engage one whole-time rodent operative to carry out the functions under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

During the year, 1/4/56—31/3/57, 5,257 inspections were carried out and 421 properties treated for rats and mice.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Medical Officer of Health, other chief officials, and members of my staff for their valued assistance, and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for all their support during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. SMITHSON,

Public Health Inspector

